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Table of Contents and Prologue

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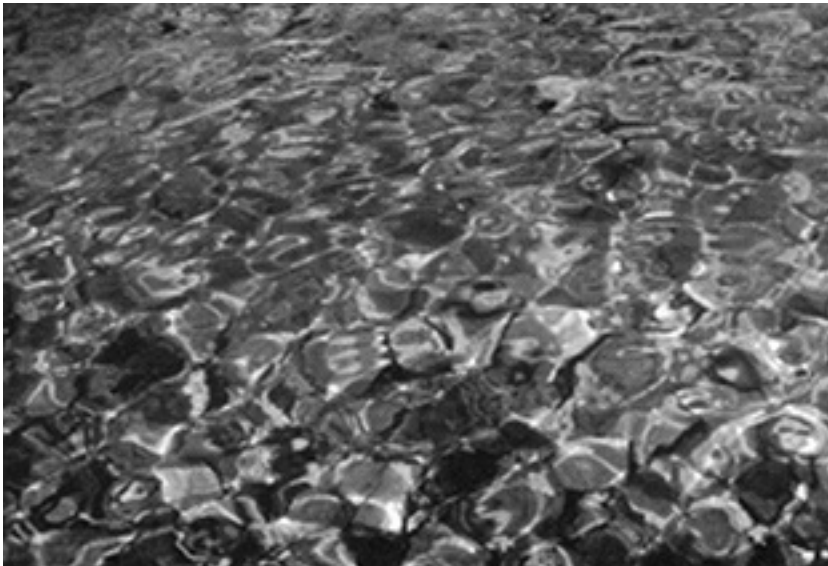
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Prologue



When speaking figuratively or poetically, one gives words shape. It is this shape which allows language to transcend the literal combination of words and take on an existence of its own. It is possible for architecture to evoke a similar phenomena.

*There are the textures through which matter becomes ‘material’
and the enfoldings of the soul through which form becomes ‘force.’*

–John Rajchman

Figurative operations in architecture necessarily involve the manipulation of matter and space, but it is their eloquent collation that creates the metaphor. Matter necessarily contains within its own nature the possibilities—tensions, contradictions, and connotations—capable of providing the motive force for this transformation. How to construct such expression through use of a substance’s materiality, its visual and tactile qualities, is our point of inquiry.